

15 Riverpoint Road
Hannibal, MO 63401

January 25, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft
US Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

I understand that Microsoft and the Justice Department have reached a proposed settlement of their antitrust case, and I want you to know that I support the settlement.

I wish my letter were sent for the purpose of thanking you for dismissing the case. Microsoft has incurred substantial expenditures of time and money for no reason other than to defend the fact that they are big and they are successful. It is a shame that Microsoft's ability to defend itself in Court was thwarted by a judge with an axe to grind. The case should have been thrown out before evidence was ever presented.

The settlement proposed clearly addresses the allegations of anticompetitive behavior by promoting greater consumer choice and opening areas to greater degrees of competition from non-Microsoft software programs. After implementation of the settlement agreement, Microsoft Windows operating systems will be subject to competition in areas such as messaging and the Internet from non-Microsoft programs.

In addition to responding to the allegations of antitrust violations, Microsoft has placed a settlement on the table that makes concessions regarding products and practices that were never even at issue in the suit. I fail to see the need to punish Microsoft by continuing the case.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak on this matter.

Sincerely,



Daniel Galloway